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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE YEAR 1873.

To the Hon. W. B. Vail, Provincial Secretary:

Halifax, 30th March, 1874.

SIR,—We have the honor to present, for the information of the Government and the Legislature, the Annual Report of operations of the Central Board of Agriculture for the year 1873. This Report embraces a statistical statement of the condition of Agricultural societies throughout the various Counties of the Province. the names of their officers, number of members, amount of subscriptions raised and paid by the members of each Society during the year, the amount of Legislative grant apportioned to each, and the names of the gentlemen nominated by the various Societies for selection in the formation of the new Board under the Act of last session.

We also submit the accounts of income

and expenditure of the Board for the year, with relative vouchers; also general abstract of accounts, showing the sources of income and expenditure in a classified form. The accounts are brought down to 13th March instant, at which date, after providing for grants to Societies for 1873, a balance remained in Treasurer's hands to credit of Board, amounting to \$2074.57. The stock farm grant, and interest to 17th instant, amounts to \$8267.37, and is invested in Merchant's Bank to credit of Board, under two Deposit Receipts.

The number of Societies that have qualified for the Legislative grant during the year is 61; number of paying members 3586; total amount of subscriptions paid \$3929; total amount of grants in aid, \$5785. These numbers would be increased if we were to add several Societies that are at present in obedience, having, through mistakes or otherwise, failed to comply with the terms of the Statute before the close of the year. The number of Societies in this unsatisfactory condition is greater than it has been in any

previous year, and the members of the Board are giving their best attention to the adjustment of the difficulties that have arisen. The number and strength of Societies in each County of the Province are shown in the following tabular statement, which is strictly confined to the Returns that were duly attested before the apportionment of the Legislative grant:

COUNTIES.	Number of Societies.	Number of members.	Amount of subscriptions.	Amount of Grants in aid.
Annapolis.....	5	304	\$304 00	\$400 00
Antigonishe.....	3	144	199 50	399 00
Cape Breton.....	3	154	154 00	305 00
Colchester.....	6	415	419 00	400 00
Cumberland.....	6	342	376 00	400 00
Digby.....	3	193	201 00	400 00
Guysborough.....	3	131	131 00	262 00
Halifax.....	3	211	211 00	400 00
Hants.....	6	271	271 00	400 00
Inverness.....	2	107	107 00	214 00
Kings.....	4	210	312 00	400 00
Lunenburg.....	1	64	64 00	125 00
Pictou.....	5	317	324 00	400 00
Queens.....	3	129	133 00	266 00
Richmond.....	1	42	43 00	86 00
Shelburne.....	3	145	145 00	290 00
Victoria.....	2	138	138 00	276 00
Yarmouth.....	2	209	396 50	356 00
Totals.....	61	3586	\$3929 00	\$5785 00